

PATENT APPLICATION

In re Application of:

Examiner: G. Liang

Group Art Unit: 2172

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August 27, 2002

Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

The concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents is given in the attached English abstracts and/or partial English translations.

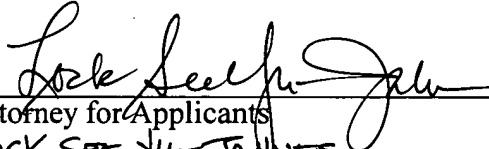
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Each item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart Japanese application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
LOCK SEE JU - JAMES
Registration No. 38,667

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200